

A SHOE MACHINERY TRUST

SHOE MANUFACTURERS BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE.

They Oppose Free Boots and Shoes, Declaring That They Are at the Mercy of the United Shoe Machinery Company—Free Hides Might Help Them.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Representatives of the shoe manufacturing industries, who had a hearing to-day before the Senate Committee on Finance in opposition to free boots and shoes, caused a stir by asserting that the shoe manufacturers of the country are practically at the mercy of the United Shoe Machinery Company of Boston.

The principal witness before the committee was William D'Oench of St. Louis, who declared that under the form of contracts the manufacturers were compelled to sign with the United Shoe Machinery Company they were practically at the mercy of a trust. He said that the English manufacturers and other foreign manufacturers did not labor under such disadvantages because they were not compelled to sign such contracts.

Senator Bailey of Texas suggested that if the situation described by the witness really existed it was a matter for the Attorney-General of the United States to look into.

"I think that if the testimony of these hearings is transmitted to the office of the Attorney-General," said Senator Bailey, "the United Shoe Machinery Company will have to come on its hands."

The Senator from Texas denounced the contracts as invalid and suggested that in some of the States the execution of such a contract would be in violation of the criminal laws.

The entire committee on Finance was aroused by the statements of the witness. Senator Simmons asked the St. Louis manufacturer why he did not purchase machinery abroad under the advantageous conditions enjoyed by the foreign purchasers. The witness replied that a duty of 45 per cent. on shoe machinery made the purchase of the machines abroad impossible to an American.

Senator Simmons then inquired whether the removal of the duty of 45 per cent. on shoe machinery would lower the cost of shoes to the users, and the witness replied that it would probably result in a reduction of price, but he was not prepared to estimate how much the price would be lowered.

Replying to a question from Senator Smoot, the St. Louis man estimated that the royalty charged by the United Shoe Machinery Company in one year was sufficient to purchase an English machine outright.

Senator Smoot thereupon contended that under such circumstances the duty should not prevent the American manufacturer from buying the European machines.

To this observation Mr. D'Oench replied that shoe manufacturers could not buy all of the necessary machinery abroad and in order to buy a part from the United Shoe Machinery Company it would be necessary to buy all under the rules imposed upon purchasers by the so-called shoe machinery trust.

Senator Bailey asked his suggestion that the report of the hearings should be sent to the Attorney-General for such action as might appear justifiable under the Sherman anti-trust law, whereupon Senator Gallinger suggested that the patents on the machinery held by the United Shoe Machinery Company would relieve that corporation from the charge of being a trust.

Senator Bailey took a different view, however. The attack on the United Shoe Machinery Company was the principal feature of the hearing before the Finance Committee to-day. A number of other manufacturers accompanied Mr. D'Oench, notably W. F. McKelroy of St. Louis and Jackson Johnson of New York City. They were appearing in opposition to the so-called farmers free list bill.

Mr. Johnson estimated that the annual output of the shoe manufacturers of the United States aggregated \$375,000,000 and that their net profit did not exceed 2 1/2 per cent. He warned the committee that a very slight reduction of the duty on boots and shoes would wipe out all profits.

"I do not say that the American manufacturers would have to go out of business as a result of lowering the duty 5 per cent., but those who continued in the business would do so at a loss," said he.

Mr. D'Oench expressed the opinion that if the American manufacturers had free hides and could get their other materials free they would be able to get along without a duty, but Mr. Florsheim of Chicago promptly demurred to this statement and insisted that the trade generally would demand a small duty on shoes.

He was reminded that one of the manufacturers had said in the hearings on the Payne-Aldrich bill that if given free hides the manufacturers would not ask for a duty on shoes.

Mr. Florsheim replied that the man who made that statement simply wanted to get a little free advertising.

Some of the members of the committee had a lively time with Mr. Florsheim. After he and his associates had complained that their business was at the mercy of the shoe manufacturers, they themselves (the shoe manufacturers) fixed the price of shoes for the retailer. He justified this by the statement that it was necessary for the shoe manufacturers to maintain a uniform selling price for a particular product in order to preserve the trade name and business.

Senator Bailey asked the manufacturers exercised a kind of "guardianship over the retailers."

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY

If the effort of the Young Women's Christian Association to provide a home for the working young women of this city is to be successful, \$100,000 additional must be subscribed by Thursday evening, May fourth.

Subscriptions have been received for \$300,000, but all conditional upon the needed sum of \$400,000 being subscribed.

WILL YOU HELP?

Subscriptions may be sent to Clinton L. Rossiter, Treasurer, Brooklyn Academy of Music. Payments at subscriber's convenience, but by September 1st, 1912.

WADSWORTH IN ALBANY.

Former Speaker Visits the Assembly Chamber and Is Cheered.

ALBANY, May 3.—James W. Wadsworth, Jr., formerly Speaker of the Assembly, who has just returned from a trip abroad and was en route from New York City to his home in Genesee, Livingston county, stepped off to look over the situation at the Capitol to-day. He called on Gov. Dix and later visited the Assembly Chamber. He ascended the Speaker's rostrum, which he had occupied for four years, and the ovation he received from both the Democratic and Republican members was strong proof of the personal popularity of the former Speaker.

For fully five minutes every man in the House was on his feet cheering, and bill files went flying in the air to add to the demonstration.

Speaker Wadsworth said he ought to apologize for attempting to break in upon the august body after it had been in continuous session for seven hours. He was cheered again and urged to continue, and some of his old friends in the House insisted that he rap for order. Speaker Wadsworth complied with the suggestion and changed about the Capitol. Some interesting changes about the Capitol, some brought by the elements and others by the will of the people. He said he did not realize how great the house was until he saw for himself today how the steam roller was going over his old friend Jesse Phillips, who was acting friendly leader. Speaker Wadsworth praised the Assembly for its hard work and congratulated the members for their progress.

FLEETING MOMENT HUGGED.

Supporters Roped in Firemen and Cops Who Came to Save the Chimney.

A chimney fire drew a crowd a little before 8 o'clock last night of the headquarters of the Women's Political Union at 46 East Twenty-ninth street, of which Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch is the head. A committee meeting was in progress and arrangements were being made for the suffragette parade which is to go down Fifth avenue on Saturday afternoon.

The suggestion had just been made that only small hats be worn and that white waists and if possible white skirts be other parts of the costume when the fire apparatus drew up in front of the house and several firemen and policemen bounded in.

The women went out to the street. The firemen climbed to the roof and choked out the fire with salt. When the firemen descended the women rushed back inside and went at firemen and policemen with suffrage petitions. They also flashed little pink cards, which they offered to sell at 25 cents each and which entitled the purchaser to life membership in the union.

The men were a little out of breath from their work and it is said that most of them had been so far as the signs went. One policeman returned to the Tenderloin station with one of the little pink cards and was cross-examined by his fellows. He insisted that he had found the card in the street.

When the policemen and firemen, or as many of them as could be persuaded had been brought into line with the (case) the women took bundles of the little pink cards outside, where the crowd was still waiting to see what had become of the firemen. The crowd melted away under the attack.

FOR EQUAL FRANCHISE.

District Attorney Elder Tells Jersey Society Women Should Have Votes.

The annual meeting of the New Jersey Equal Franchise Society, organized a year ago through the efforts of Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay, was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Elder, 10 East 10th street. Mr. Elder is an ardent advocate of the cause, but Mrs. Stevens says she has not been converted yet.

Assistant District Attorney Robert H. Elder of Brooklyn was the principal speaker. He said in part:

"Any law which gives an advantage to one part of the population to the disadvantage of another part is an unjust law. No matter what natural limitation may be put upon a man, no law should put a limitation on the advancement of a human being or shut the door of opportunity."

It would be a public calamity for men to refuse women the ballot when they want it. If women refuse women the right to express their political conscience there will come a case, one which I hope never to see tried, of Man vs. Woman. It would be a calamity for man to allow a movement of history to arraign him against woman and her political rights. That arrangement and not woman's voting is what would disrupt the home and society.

DEMOCRATS TO PROBE TRUSTS

INQUIRY INTO ACTIVITIES OF THREE BIG COMPANIES.

U. S. Steel Corporation and the Sugar and Woollen Trusts to Be Investigated—Also the Diplomatic and Consular Service and the P. O. Department.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The way was paved in the House of Representatives to-day for an inquiry by Congress committees into the activities of three big industrial corporations. The United States Steel Corporation and the so-called woolen and sugar trusts are to feed the probe of the Democratic House of Representatives. The Democratic leaders are making capital for 1912, and they are of the opinion that any inquiries into the affairs of these three big concerns will yield material that can be turned to political advantage in the next Presidential campaign.

The operations of the Steel company will first receive the attention of the House Democrats. The Committee on Rules to-day reported favorably the Stanley resolution, which authorizes an inquiry into the affairs of the United States Steel Corporation with a view to ascertaining whether it is violating the laws that regulate commerce between the States. The Stanley resolution will be passed in the House.

Following the action of the Rules Committee Representative Hardwick of Georgia, a Democrat, offered a resolution authorizing an inquiry to determine the extent of alleged violations of the customs and anti-trust laws by the American Sugar Refining Company.

Right on the heels of the Hardwick resolution came another, offered by Representative Francis of Ohio, charging in effect that the American Woollen Company of Boston is a combination in restraint of trade and authorizing the creation of a committee of the House to inquire into its affairs and its manner of doing business.

The Democrats of the House apparently intend to investigate most of the excessively large interstate corporations. In addition they intend to make inquiries into the nine executive departments of the Government as well as an investigation into the charge that the Post Office Department is being used by the Administration for political purposes.

According to the plan made to-day the Democratic leaders expect the investigations into the operations of United States Steel, American Sugar and the wool trust to pan out most satisfactorily in a political way.

Representative Stanley of Kentucky, author of the Steel company resolution, introduced the measure in the last Congress, but no action was taken on it. The resolution provides for a committee of nine members, who are directed to determine whether there have been violations by the United States Steel Corporation of the anti-trust act of July 2, 1890, the various interstate commerce laws and the act relative to national banking associations which have not been prosecuted by the executive officers of the Government.

The committee is specifically directed to ascertain whether the United States Steel Corporation has any relation or affiliation in violation of law with the Pennsylvania Steel Company, the Cambria Steel Company, the Lackawanna Steel Company or any other steel company nominally independent.

Whether the steel company, through the persons owning its stock, has any relation or affiliation with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company or any other railroad company. The committee is further empowered to inquire carefully into the capitalization of the steel corporation, whether it has been able to compel the production of witnesses under oath and also all necessary books and papers.

The Hardwick resolution bearing on the sugar trust and that of Representative Francis bearing on the affairs of the American Woollen Company are patterned after the Stanley resolution. They are all similar in scope and purpose, and are contained in such that the corporation under consideration has combined to crush competition, to control output and to regulate prices.

Still another investigation is proposed in a resolution introduced by Representative Broussard of Louisiana. Mr. Broussard's resolution provides for the creation of a joint committee of the House and Senate to make an inquiry into the diplomatic and consular services of the United States.

BACK FROM A FIDDLING TOUR.

Boy Who Worked His Way Abroad Now Seeks to Regain Health.

Warner D. Miller, with a passion for music, who started from his home in Geneva, Ohio, more than a year ago when he was less than 19, to fiddle his way to Paris and fame as a violinist, came back yesterday with another fiddle than the original one and too ill to continue his study of the violin for some time. He was a second cabin passenger by the North German Lloyd liner Kronprinzessin Cecilie. When he sailed hence he was a cattleman aboard the Atlantic port liner, Minneapolis, whose skipper permitted her to smash onto the Scillies. The boy and the rest of the ship's company lived in huts three days before they were sent to London.

On the ship Miller fell in with a Belgian who said he wanted money to take him to his home in Brussels. Miller agreed to pay the Belgian's fare and the latter promised to pay him back and let him have more money to help him toward Paris, where he expected to make enough fiddling on the streets and in cafes to pay for music lessons. The Belgian did not keep his promise and Miller set to work fiddling.

He decided to walk from Brussels to Paris about 200 miles, fiddling for food on the way and sleeping in outhouses and barns. He fell sick, but shortly got well enough to continue the journey, but not on foot. He found that it would cost him \$3 to go by rail and he sold his violin and got to Paris. He revealed his plight to the American Consul-General, Mr. Mason, who communicated with Miller's father, a lawyer of Geneva.

The father sent money to his son and permission to continue his music lessons at the father's expense for a year. The boy became a pupil of Gieseler, first violin of the Paris opera, and made progress. But the rough experience of the young man had undermined his constitution and recently he decided to give up music temporarily at least and return home to regain health. That is what he will seek now.

Before he sailed away on the Minneapolis the boy had been doing clerical work for a time. He was sent to work in an iron foundry to build himself up and after he believed he was fit for roughing it he headed for New York to take his fiddling passage to the other side. His father refused to let him go abroad to study. He got here after riding home style on the bumpers with \$12 of the \$30 he started with and his violin. He was a vagrant and a vagrant and got off with a fine. Before he sailed on the Minneapolis he collected a few dollars by playing his violin in West street.

APPEAL TO GOV. DIX.

Depositors of the Defunct Union Bank of Brooklyn Ask for an Investigation.

ALBANY, May 3.—Representatives of the depositors of the defunct Union Bank of Brooklyn waited upon Gov. Dix at the Executive Chamber to-day and urged him to help secure the passage of the bill of Assemblyman Goldstein appropriating \$50,000 for a legislative investigation of the Union Bank of Brooklyn and any other State bank or trust company in process of liquidation which in effect that the committee would warrant investigation in such an investigation, it was declared, was necessary in order that moneys of the 23,000 depositors in the Union Bank might be recovered.

Gov. Dix sent for Supl. Cheney of the State Banking Department to come over to the Capitol and listen with him to the appeal of the delegation.

Assemblyman Goldstein laid the list of grievances of the depositors before the Governor. The bank went under during the panic of 1907, but was afterward rehabilitated and was again opened by Superintendent Clark Williams of the Banking Department. The bank had eight branches and drew deposits from 10,000 depositors and householders, and when it again closed on April 5, 1910, the deposits aggregated almost \$4,000,000. Not a penny has been returned to the depositors, though preferred claims settled for over \$1,000,000. It is impossible to accumulate a fund to be distributed to depositors because the collateral given the Metropolitan Trust Company of New York to secure a loan cannot be released until the loan is repaid, and there is still an indebtedness of \$2,000,000. Other assets of the Union Bank are of doubtful value, consisting of second and third mortgages on Brooklyn real estate and overdue notes.

Gov. Dix said he was very bitter in denunciation of Clark Williams for permitting the bank to reopen and criticize Superintendent Cheney for allowing it to continue to do business.

During the brief hearing Gov. Dix asked Mr. Cheney some pointed questions. He wanted to know if some of the real estate loans made by the bank were not defective and were told by the Superintendent that they would have been excessive under the present laws but that they were not illegal at the time they were made.

Gov. Dix then asked if the Banking Department ought not to have interfered and looked into the administration of matters complained of at the time they were defective and were told by the Superintendent that they would have been excessive under the present laws but that they were not illegal at the time they were made.

As Almet R. Latson, counsel for the depositors of the bank, had not arrived the Governor adjourned the hearing.

Civil Service Commission to Appeal Stock Transfer Examiners Case.

ALBANY, May 3.—The State Civil Service Commission to-day adopted a resolution directing Attorney-General Carmody to appeal to the Appellate Division from the order recently given by Supreme Court Justice Ridd directing the commission to rescind its resolution passed some time ago to change the classification of the stock transfer examiners in the State Comptroller's department from the competitive to the exempt class. The positions formerly were exempt from examination and were changed to the competitive schedule at the instance of State Comptroller Clark Williams. Action was taken in the Supreme Court by Justice Merritt, an examiner, testing the authority of the commission to make the change.

Acetone Wife Sends Manager Corwell to Jail.

Trevor L. Corwell, manager of the "Smart Set" musical comedy company, was arrested yesterday and sent to Ludlow street jail in default of \$1,000 bail in a separation brought by his wife, Katherine Revare Corwell, an actress. In her application for an order of arrest to Supreme Court Justice Hendrick Mrs. Corwell stated she intended to ask for \$25 a week alimony and feared that her husband would leave the State before she could collect.

THE LORIMER CASE AGAIN

SENATE COMMITTEE TO REPORT LA FOLLETTE RESOLUTION.

It Provides for Another Investigation by a Select Committee of Five Senators and Names the Members of the Committee—Opposition Likely to Develop.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The Senate Committee on Audit and Control of the Contingent Expenses of the Senate voted unanimously to-day to report favorably to-morrow the resolution introduced by Senator La Follette authorizing another investigation by a select committee of five Senators of the charges of corruption in connection with the election of William Lorimer as Senator from Illinois. Senator Briggs of New Jersey is chairman of the committee. He explained to-day that the only question before his committee was as to the propriety of authorizing the payment of the necessary expenses for conducting such an investigation from the contingent fund of the Senate. Chairman Briggs' committee gave no consideration whatever to the merits of the resolution. Senator Briggs will report the resolution to-morrow when the Senate meets.

Senator La Follette, author of the resolution, said to-day after he learned of the action of the committee that he would probably ask that the report of the committee lie on the table until next Monday because of the absence from Washington of certain Senators who have expressed a desire to be heard on the matter and who will not be able to be present until Monday. He will ask the Senate on Monday to pass the resolution without any further reference to a committee. This course would be unusual, and it is likely that Senator La Follette's motion will be successfully resisted. It is unusual for the Senate to act directly on a matter of such importance without first referring it to a standing committee for investigation and report. In this case the proper committee would be that of Privileges and Elections.

For some reason Senator La Follette objects to having the resolution go to the committee. Probably he fears that the committee would insist upon revealing the personnel of the investigating committee as it appears in Senator La Follette's resolution. The five members of the proposed investigating committee were selected at a meeting of twelve Republican insurgent Senators. Some of the Senate leaders have expressed the opinion that regardless of the ad hoc capacity of the five Senators named by Mr. La Follette to conduct the investigation the Senate should not yield to the twelve insurgents its prerogative of selecting these members.

There is decided opposition to the action by the Senate of its powers in favor of La Follette and his band of twelve, although there is no particular objection to the Senators whose names appear in the La Follette resolution. Possibly opposition may develop to Senator Works of California, who was picked out by La Follette as chairman of the committee, because Mr. Works' recent speech in the Senate in which he expressed decided opinions on the Lorimer case. Under the circumstances it has been suggested that he be disqualified himself for service on the committee as an impartial investigator by announcing in advance such determined views.

One of the reasons advanced for selecting a committee of new Senators was to make a show of entire fairness in the second investigation by excluding from the committee Senators who had been required to vote on the case when it was before the Senate at the last session. The five Senators whose names appear in the La Follette resolution as members of the select committee were elected in the investigation are Works of California, chairman; Townsend of Michigan and McLean of Connecticut, Republicans; and Democrat.

There is certain to be a fight in the Senate over the disposal of the La Follette resolution. Some Senators contend that the proposition to investigate Lorimer again is premature and that the Senate ought to wait until the legislative inquiry at Springfield is ended.

ELEVENTH AVENUE BILL.

Senate Passes It by a Vote of 30 to 4—It Takes Effect on November 1.

ALBANY, May 3.—The State Senate by a vote of 30 to 4 passed the McManus-Bryant Senate bill aimed to bring to a direct issue within six months the question of the removal of the New York Central tracks from the surface of Eleventh avenue in New York city. The bill repeals the law permitting the railroad on the avenue as well as annulling the consent of the New York city authorities permitting the railroad company to operate on the avenue at grade and then it provides:

"Nothing herein contained, however, shall be construed to nullify or impair any agreement entered into before November 1, 1911, between the city of New York and the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company which shall provide for the relocation and operation of said railroad within said city, but off of the surface of any of its streets and avenues, and authority to make such agreement is hereby expressly conferred upon said city and county and pending the fulfillment thereof according to its terms, but for no longer period, the continued use of the surface of said streets and avenues as aforesaid by said company shall be lawful."

"This act shall take effect on November 1, 1911, and except as to the provisions of section 3, and as to such section it shall take effect immediately."

The Assembly to-day passed Assemblyman W. R. Herrick's bill making it illegal for any person in business to discriminate against a person wearing the uniform of the United States army or navy or any official military organization. Senator Ferris's bill appropriating \$1,600,000 for the construction of good roads in Onondaga county, and Assemblyman Gray's in increasing the pay of official court stenographers in the Third and Fourth judicial districts to \$1.50 a year.

New Wall Street Luncheon Club.

ALBANY, May 3.—The new luncheon club organized in the Wall Street district, New York city, known as the New York City Club, was incorporated with the Secretary of State to-day. The directors, all prominent financiers, are as follows: George F. Baker, Jr., C. Leidy Blair, Walter P. Bliss, G. Louis Boissvain, Franklin D. Brown, Henry P. Davison, J. Horace Harding, Joseph W. Herriman, Oliver G. Jennings, Samuel McKelbert, John H. Prentice, Mortimer L. Schiff, William A. Tucker and Cornelius Vanderbilt.

Burgoyne's Brass Cannon for State Reservation.

ALBANY, May 3.—Adj. Gen. Verbeck yesterday wrote to Representative Henry W. DeForest of the Albany-Schenectady Congress district asking him to urge the passage of a bill by Congress to authorize the Secretary of War to donate brass field pieces and a brass howitzer captured from Gen. Burgoyne at Saratoga as suitable for the State reservation to ornament the State reservation there. The pieces are now at the Watervliet Arsenal, and Gen. Robert Shaw Oliver, Assistant Secretary of War, has approved of the proposed transfer.

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PHILLIPS GETS JOB BACK.

Is Again Under Sheriff After Being Cleared of Graft Charges.

John M. Phillips, who resigned as under sheriff of Queens county when nine indictments charging him with grand larceny and forgery in connection with the graft hunt in Queens were returned against him by a Grand Jury of that county several months ago, yesterday resumed his old position, taking the oath of office before Justice Kapper. Two of the indictments against Phillips were dismissed on technicalities. He went to trial on two others, and in each instance Justice Maddox directed the jury to acquit owing to a lack of evidence, and the remaining five indictments were then dismissed by the court.

Edward Fitzpatrick, who served as under sheriff during the interval of Phillips' resignation, handed the commission to Sheriff Thomas M. Quinn yesterday and has gone back to his contracting business.

GEORGE W. YOUNG WINS.

Verdict for \$158,266 as Part of U. S. Mortgage and Trust Company Profits.

A jury before Supreme Court Justice Giegerich brought in a verdict for \$158,266 yesterday in a suit by George W. Young, the banker, against the United States Mortgage and Trust Company to recover 5 per cent. of the profits of the company under a contract. Young testified that when he was president of the company the company agreed to pay him 5 per cent. of the profits. The profits were paid for several years and then because the business did not warrant it he did not insist on his commission for two years. They were sent to the defendant refused to recognize the agreement any longer.

Byrnes' Nomination Confirmed—Van Tuyl's Still in Committee.

ALBANY, May 3.—Gov. Dix's appointment of Thomas F. Byrnes of Brooklyn to be a State Tax Commissioner for a term of three years at a salary of \$6,000 was unanimously confirmed by the State Senate to-day through the efforts of Senator Thomas H. Cullen, the dean of the Brooklyn legislators.

The nominations of G. C. Van Tuyl, Jr., of Albany to be State Superintendent of Banks and James A. Holden of Glen Falls to be State Historian are languishing in the Senate Finance Committee, although he has been in the Senate the same time as was the Byrnes nomination.

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